regarding the undertaking mentioned in part (a) of the question is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Encouragement to Cultivation of Oilpalm

2359. SHRI YERRA NARAYANA-SWAMY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are encouraging the cultivation of oil-palm in the country;

(b) if so, the measures taken for assistance to States for oil-palm cultivation;

(c) the State-wise production of oil-palm during the last three years; and

(d) the details of extent of land under oil-palm cultivation?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) and (b) In order to encourage cultivation of oil Palm, Government in providing assistance to selected States under Central sponsored scheme namely, Oil Palm Development Programme (OPDP) for planting material, cultivation during gestation period, drip irrigation installation, training of extension staff and farmers, publicity & extension and establishement & staff.

(c) and (d) The State-wise production of Oil Palm Fresh Fruit Bunches (FFB) during last three years and extent of area under Oil Palm are given in the Statement.

Statement

State-wise Production of Oil Palm Fresh Fruit Bunches (FFB) during last Three years.

S. No. State	Oil Palm FFB Production (Metric tonnes)		
	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
1. Kerala	14,050	19,910	19,901
2. Andaman & Nicobar Islands	9,349	10,868	9,088
3. Andhra Pradesh	983	3,854	6,966
4. Karnataka	237	1,197	1,800
5. Goa	NIL	NIL	28 (P)
	24,619	35,829	37.783 (P)

P — Provisional.

State-wise extent of area under Oil Palm

S.No. State	Area under Oil Palm (Hectares)
1. Kerala	3,646
2. Andaman & Nicobar Islands	1,593
3. Andhra Pradesh	17,577
4. karnataka	6,700
5. Tamil Nadu	5,033
6. Goa	570
7. Gujarat	300
8. Orissa	380
9. Tripura	72
10. Assam	10
11. Maharashtra	1,000
TOTAL	36,881

Creation of Sports Funds

2360. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering possibilities to create separate sports funds to encourage sports;

(b) if so, the total amount spent on sports by Government during the last three years;

(c) whether the funds allocated to the State Governments for sports have been utilised and whether Government have asked for a report thereon; and

(d) if so, the other concrete steps Government propose to take to encourage sports in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE (DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS & SPORTS) IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI R. DHANUSHKODI ATHITHAN): (a) Yes, Sir. There is a proposal to create a National Sports Development Fund.

(b) The total expenditure incurred on sports by the Government of India during last three years is as under:—

Year	Total Expenditure Incurred
1993-94	Rs. 81.11 crores
1994-95	Rs. 71.22 crores
1995-96	Rs. 64.13 crores